

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

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FEAE-00 DODE-00 ERDA-05 PM-04 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4178

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

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DEPT PASS IO/SCT

FROM USDEL IAEA

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, OCON, CA

SUBJ: IAEA 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE: CANADIAN COMMENTS ON CANADIAN-
ROMANIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION

1. CANADIAN REP (CARROTHERS OF AECL) AT IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE
INFORMED SIEVERING AND KRATZER OF PRESENT STATUS OF CANADIAN-
ROMANIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION. CARROTHERS STATED THAT FOLLOWING
INITIALLING OF AECL-ROMANIAN COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT SOME WEEKS AGO,
EFFORTS HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TOWARD DETAIL DEFINITION OF SCOPE OF
PROJECT. A FIVE MEMBER ROMANIAN TECHNICAL TEAM IS NOW IN TORONTO
WORKING OUT DETAILED SCOPE, WITH OBJECTIVE OF DEVELOPING FIRM
PRICE TAG ON REACTOR PROJECT. NOTING THAT THIS WAS THIRD ATTEMPT
AT CANADIAN-ROMANIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, CARROTHERS SAID THAT PRICE
TAG WAS GOING TO BE HIGH, AND HE WAS NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT
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ROMANIANS WOULD END UP BUYING WHEN THEY SEE FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES.

2. CARROTHERS ALSO SAID THAT ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO GOC, ROMANIANS ARE STILL INVOLVED IN SERIOUS DISPUTE WITH USSR OVER WHETHER REACTOR TO BE SUPPLIED BY SOVIETS SHOULD BE INSTALLED IN CONTAINMENT VESSEL. CANADIANS UNDERSTAND THAT ROMANIANS ARE INSISTING ON THIS, WHILE SOVIETS ARE EQUALLY STRONGLY OBJECTING. IF ROMANIAN-SOVIET ARRANGEMENT FALLS THROUGH OVER THIS ISSUE, CARROTHERS BELIEVES THAT IT WILL BECOME EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR ROMANIANS TO PROCEED WITH CANADIAN PROJECT. THUS AS CANADIANS SEE IT, THERE ARE TWO STRONG REASONS WHY ROMANIAN ARRANGEMENT MAY NOT GO FORWARD, A POSSIBILITY WHICH CARROTHERS SEEMED TO FIND ATTRACTIVE.

3. IF, DESPITE THESE DIFFICULTIES, ARRANGEMENT GOES FORWARD, CARROTHERS SAID CANADA CONTEMPLATES SEEKING COCOM APPROVAL FOR TRANSFERS AROUND END OF THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT YEAR. THEY ARE ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE PRIOR TO THAT TIME U.S. VIEWS ON AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF THE SPECIFIC TRANSFERS CONTEMPLATED BY CANADIAN SUBSIDIARIES OF U.S. FIRMS. CARROTHERS SPECIFICALLY STATED, IN RESPONSE TO U.S. REPS QUESTION THAT LACK OF U.S. VIEWS ON THESE TRANSFERS WAS HOLDING UP NOTHING AT PRESENT TIME, BUT WOULD HAVE THIS EFFECT IF VIEWS NOT RECEIVED BY TIME CANADA IS READY TO GO TO COCOM. CARROTHERS ALSO SAID THAT WHILE HE IS PERSONALLY UNCONCERNED, THERE WAS CONCERN IN GOC OVER EXTRATERRITORIALITY ISSUE, I.E. US EXERCISE OF APPROVAL OVER EXPORT ACTIVITIES OF CANADIAN SUBSIDIARIES OF US FIRMS, AND THAT HE HOPED US WOULD BEAR THIS IN MIND IN ORDER TO AVOID A POTENTIALLY DIFFICULT SITUATION.
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